St Vincent’s Primary school

East Kilbride

Parent Council AGM

Minutes of meeting held via Zoom on Wednesday 7th October 2020

**Attendees**

Eileen Tompkins, Danielle Timmons, Lorena Ziolo, Yvonne Boyle, , Olive Thomas, Clare Simpson, Sana Hasan, David Kelly, Jennifer Bingham, Karen Morton, Sarah Knox, Bonnie Salinas, Paula Canning, Ehinomen Atimati, Celeste Dickson, Michael Feeney, Anne.

**Apologies**

Archie Buchanan, Gerry Gordon, Fiona Dryburgh, Sheryl Nicolson, Jaqueline Burke, Libby Rooney, Julia Murray.

**Opening prayer and welcome**

Chair opened meeting and welcomed all in attendance. Meeting continued with prayer from Eileen Tompkins in absence of Church Rep.

**Minutes of last meeting**

Agreed upon.

**Head Teacher report**

Staff and parents thanked for continued support and co-operation. Children have settled well since their return to school.

Pre-Lockdown:

* The schools main focus from August 2019 was introducing Enquiry Based Learning in the upper school and play based learning in the lower school.
* Deirdre Grogan from Strathclyde University and funding from Pupil Equity Fund has assisted with this.
* Play based learning continues and is having a noticeable impact on assessment results.

During lockdown:

* Learning was provided by staff through Google classroom, phone calls, virtual sports day, making videos (Bake off) etc.
* Communication was maintained through the school app, website and twitter pages.
* Staff worked in hubs, collected and distributed food alongside the parish church and weekly staff zoom meetings had 100% attendance.
* Vulnerable and bereaved children were given extra support.
* Primary 1 and 7 children were visited (socially distanced) to welcome (P1) and wish farewell (P7).

Since returning to school:

* The focus has been on a Recovery curriculum covering three key areas: Health and Wellbeing, Continuity of Learning and Equity.
* NHS and government guidelines strictly followed; one way system, regular hand washing, playground zones, virtual assemblies etc.
* Walkie talkies have helped greatly with staff communication.
* Some Pupil Equity funds were used to provide additional support for Primary 2 children whose introduction to school was cut short due to lockdown.
* Readiness to learn from home – Scottish Government funding was made available to purchase devices so all children can continue to learn from home and do homework online.
* Meet the Teacher presentations available on Google classroom.
* Interim reports sent out Friday 9th October 2020. Follow up phone calls are available if necessary.
* Outdoor play area improving- new games on playground, staff from Barclays worked on the garden area, forest area to be cleared during the October week, spikes on window ledges to deal with pigeons.

The children along with the school community continue to work together to provide and promote the school’s values of Excellence, Respect, Resilience, Faith, Friendship and Kindness.

**Treasurers Report**

Balance at last AGM 2019 - £4829

Notable expenditure;

* December 2019 - £2000 given to the school near Christmas to buy gifts and necessities for families in need.
* 20th March 2020 - £480 for the school app.
* 30th June 2020 - £1000 for school spheros and £450 for a remembrance bench for Mrs Angel.

Notable fundraising:

* November 2019 – £658 from Halloween Disco.
* December 2019 - £2556 from Christmas Fayre.

Balance today 2020 - £3912

**Office bearers resign and new members elected**

Previous office bearers resigned from post and thanked for their wonderful contribution and fundraising. Special thanks to Olive Thomas for all her hard work over the years.

New members elected.

* Chairperson – Clare Simpson
* Vice Chairperson – David Kelly
* Secretary – Karen Morton
* Treasurer – Sana Hasan
* Church Representative – Gerry Gordon

**Fundraising**

The hope is the school can continue with their fantastic fundraising achievements. However, at present due to the current climate and guidelines, further discussions will take place on how best to move forward.

**Upcoming events**

* Halloween – Each class will have an afternoon Halloween party on Friday 30th October. Come dressed up. More details to follow.
* St Andrews Day celebration – The children are asked to wear something tartan. More details to follow.
* Christmas – Christmas cards designed by children will now be done in the school. Christmas parties, Nativity and Café Noelle discussions are ongoing. More details to follow.

**School ties**

Previously school ties were ordered by the Parent Council and purchased by parents from the office. Parents are now kindly asked to purchase them directly from Academy Uniforms or eBay. For Academy Uniforms please inform them of the school and for eBay type ‘sky and maroon school tie’ in search bar.

**Maintenance**

* The wonderful pictures the children made during lockdown are now sadly weather damaged. These will be removed and the hope is the student council will design a new message to go on a weather resistant banner on the railings.
* Local councillors to be contacted to help support the case to the council for pavements surrounding the school to be repaired.
* MUGA pitch needs updated and repaired. Potentially able to apply for grants for help with this.

**Closing Prayer**

Closing prayer from Eileen Tompkins.

**Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 3rd November 2020